

HOUSE BILL 3241

By McCord

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4; Title 49, Chapter 7; Title 49, Chapter 8 and Title 49, Chapter 9, relative to higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by deleting subdivision (17) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(17) "Full-time student" means a student attending a postsecondary educational institution and enrolled for at least fourteen (14) semester hours during each semester of attendance;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-924(b), is amended by deleting the language " twelve (12) semester hours" and by substituting instead the language "fourteen (14) semester hours".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

§ 49-7-1___. The Tennessee higher education commission shall require the board of regents and the University of Tennessee board of trustees to set the minimum requirement for undergraduate full-time attendance at their institutions at fourteen (14) semester hours per semester or an equivalent number of credit hours for those institutions not operating on a semester system.

SECTION 4. The Tennessee student assistance corporation shall notify recipients of postsecondary financial assistance administered by the corporation of the change in the number of semester hours required to be enrolled full-time under the provisions of this act. The Tennessee higher education commission shall notify the Tennessee Independent Colleges and

Universities Association of this change with respect to full-time attendance for the purposes of students receiving postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds. The board of regents and the University of Tennessee board of trustees shall cause the institutions of their respective systems to post appropriate notice of such change in a prominent place on each institution's web site and to otherwise appropriately notify all students enrolled or applying for enrollment in public institutions of higher education.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011, the public welfare requiring it.